

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-4 and 6 are herein canceled. Applicants make no statement with respect to the propriety of the grounds for rejection of these claims and preserve the right to present the rejected claims in a continuation application without prejudice.

Claims 7 and 8 are amended to depend from Claim 5.

Claim 11 is amended to depend from Claim 8.

No new matter is believed added to this application by entry of this amendment.

Upon entry of this amendment, Claims 5 and 7-15 are active.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

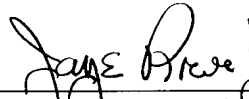
Applicants wish to thank Examiner Manoharan for the allowance of Claims 5, 10-13 and 15, and the indication that Claims 6 and 8-9 would be allowable if written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 6 is herein cancelled and Claims 7 and 8 are amended to depend from allowed Claim 5. All claims now depend directly or indirectly from Claim 5.

The rejection of Claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over JP 10-109952 with or without Tanaka et al. (U.S. 3,878,058) is moot in view of the cancellation of Claims 1-4, herein. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance and early notice of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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